

## **NEWS UPDATE**

### **Institute for Plasma Research signs agreement with College of FPTBE**

Scientific Collaboration Agreement was signed between College Of Food Processing Technology and Bioenergy, Anand Agricultural University, Anand and Facilitation Centre For Industrial Plasma Technologies, Institute for Plasma Research, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India, Gandhinagar, for collaboration on Plasma Based Technology on Development for Surface Decontamination of Fruits and Vegetables on July 26, 2016. The agreement was signed by Dr. D. C. Joshi, Dean of College of FPTBE and Prof. Amita Das, Dean of IPR in the presence of Prof. D. Bora, Director IPR. Dr R.V. Prasad, Professor & Head, Dept of Food Quality Assurance and Dr. R.F. Sutar, Professor & Head, Dept of Post Harvest Engg and Technology from College of FPTBE and Dr. Subroto Mukherjee, Head, FCIPT Division and Dr. Sudhir K. Nema Scientist SG, were also present on the occasion.

The agreement involves collaborative R&D to develop cold plasma systems, evaluate and improve the performance of the methods developed for safe surface decontamination of raw / minimally processed fruits & vegetables and other food commodities. Further, it also involves cold plasma technologies for modification of residues / toxins / functionality of the products.

The College of FPTBE and FCIPT will Undertake R&D work for the development of improved surface decontamination treatment processes and techniques. They will be jointly working on developing a device for removing the harmful contaminants from the surface of fruits and vegetables. The technology will also help to reduce the microbial and pesticidal load, thereby enhancing the shelf life and quality of the fruits and vegetables. The agreement will also facilitate use of analytical and infrastructural facilities available with both institutions.

